

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

In re:

KATERRA INC., *et al.*,¹

Debtors.

)
) Chapter 11
)
) Case No. 21-31861 (DRJ)
)
) (Joint Administration Requested)
) (Emergency Hearing Requested)

**DEBTORS' EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ENTRY OF INTERIM AND FINAL
ORDERS APPROVING NOTIFICATION AND HEARING PROCEDURES
FOR CERTAIN TRANSFERS OF AND DECLARATIONS OF WORTHLESSNESS
WITH RESPECT TO COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK**

Emergency relief has been requested. A hearing will be conducted on this matter on June 7, 2021 at 3:30 pm (prevailing Central Time) in Courtroom 400, 4th floor, 515 Rusk, Houston, Texas 77002. You may participate in the hearing either in person or by audio/video connection.

Audio communication will be by use of the Court's dial-in facility. You may access the facility at (832) 917-1510. You will be responsible for your own long distance charges. Once connected, you will be asked to enter the conference room number. Judge Jones's conference room number is 205691.

You may view video via GoToMeeting. To use GoToMeeting, the Court recommends that you download the free GoToMeeting application. To connect, you should enter the meeting code "JudgeJones" in the GoToMeeting app or click the link on Judge Jones's home page on the Southern District of Texas website. Once connected, click the settings icon in the upper right corner and enter your name under the personal information setting.

Hearing appearances must be made electronically in advance of the hearing. To make your electronic appearance, go to the Southern District of Texas website and select "Bankruptcy Court" from the top menu. Select "Judges' Procedures," then "View Home Page" for Judge Jones. Under "Electronic Appearance" select "Click here to submit Electronic Appearance". Select the case name, complete the required fields and click "Submit" to complete your appearance.

If you object to the relief requested or you believe that emergency consideration is not warranted, you must either appear at the hearing or file a written response prior to the hearing. Otherwise, the Court may treat the pleading as unopposed and grant the relief requested.

Relief is requested not later than June 7, 2021.

¹ A complete list of each of the Debtors in these chapter 11 cases may be obtained on the website of the Debtors' proposed claims and noticing agent at <https://cases.primeclerk.com/katerra>. The location of Debtor Katerra Inc.'s principal place of business and the Debtors' service address in these chapter 11 cases is 9305 East Via de Ventura, Scottsdale, Arizona 85258.

The above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the “Debtors”) state the following in support of this motion (this “Motion”):

Relief Requested

1. The Debtors seek entry of interim and final orders, substantially in the attached forms (the “Interim Order” and “Final Order,” respectively), substantially in the forms attached hereto: (a) approving certain notification and hearing procedures related to certain transfers of, or declarations of worthlessness with respect to, Debtor Katterra Inc., (Cayman)’s (“Katterra Cayman”) existing classes of common stock (collectively, the “Common Stock”) and existing classes (or series) of preferred stock (together, the “Preferred Stock”) or any Beneficial Ownership² therein (any such record or Beneficial Ownership of Common stock or Preferred Stock, as detailed in Exhibit 1 to the Order (the “Procedures”); and (b) directing that any purchase, sale, other transfer of, or declaration of worthlessness with respect to Common Stock or Preferred Stock in violation of the Procedures shall be null and void *ab initio*, and (c) granting related relief.

2. In addition, the Debtors request that the Court schedule a final hearing within approximately 21 days after the commencement of these chapter 11 cases, or as soon thereafter as is convenient for the Court, to consider approval of this Motion on a final basis.

² “Beneficial Ownership” will be determined in accordance with the applicable rules of sections 382 and 383 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. §§ 1–9834 as amended (the “IRC”), and the U.S. Department of the Treasury regulations thereunder (“Treasury Regulations”) (other than Treasury Regulations section 1.382-2T(h)(2)(i)(A)), and includes direct, indirect, and constructive ownership (*e.g.*, (1) a holding company would be considered to beneficially own all equity securities owned by its subsidiaries, (2) a partner in a partnership would be considered to beneficially own its proportionate share of any equity securities owned by such partnership, (3) an individual and such individual’s family members may be treated as one individual, (4) persons and entities acting in concert to make a coordinated acquisition of equity securities may be treated as a single entity, and (5) a holder would be considered to beneficially own equity securities that such holder has an Option to acquire). An “Option” to acquire stock includes all interests described in Treasury Regulations section 1.382-4(d)(9), including any contingent purchase right, warrant, convertible debt, put, call, stock subject to risk of forfeiture, contract to acquire stock, or similar interest, regardless of whether it is contingent or otherwise not currently exercisable.

Jurisdiction and Venue

3. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the “Court”) has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). The Debtors confirm their consent, pursuant to rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), to the entry of a final order by the Court.

4. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

5. The bases for the relief requested herein are sections 105, 345, 362, 363, 503, 507, and 541 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”), Bankruptcy Rules 6003 and 6004, and rule 9013-1(b) of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the Southern District of Texas (the “Bankruptcy Local Rules”).

Background

6. Kattera Inc., together with its Debtor and non-Debtor subsidiaries (“Kattera”), is a technology-driven construction company that develops, manufactures, and markets products and services in the commercial and residential construction spaces. Kattera delivers a comprehensive suite of products and services for its clients through a distinct model that combines end-to-end integration with significant investment in technological and design innovation. Kattera offers services to its clients through three distinct offerings: (a) end-to-end new build; (b) construction services; and (c) renovations. Kattera has approximately 6,400 employees who are primarily located in nine countries. In the year ending 2020, Kattera’s operations generated revenue of approximately \$1.75 billion.

7. On the date hereof (the “Petition Date”), each Debtor filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. A detailed description surrounding the facts and circumstances of these chapter 11 cases is set forth in the *Declaration of Marc Liebman in Support*

of Chapter 11 Petitions and First Day Motions (the “First Day Declaration”)³ and in the *Declaration of Matthew R. Niemann in Support of (A) DIP Financing and (B) All First Day Relief* filed contemporaneously with this Motion and incorporated by reference herein. As described in more detail in the First Day Declaration, the Debtors commenced these chapter 11 cases in the face of a liquidity crisis and with the goal of facilitating a marketing and sale process for their assets to maximize value and creditor recoveries.

8. The Debtors are operating their businesses and managing their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. Concurrently with the filing of this Motion, the Debtors have requested procedural consolidation and joint administration of these chapter 11 cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b). No request for the appointment of a trustee or examiner has been made in these chapter 11 cases, and no committees have been appointed or designated.

The Tax Attributes

9. Generally, a company generates net operating losses (“NOLs”) if the operating expenses it has incurred exceed the revenues it has earned during a single tax year. A company may apply or “carry forward” NOLs to reduce future tax payments (subject to certain conditions discussed below).⁴ See IRC §§ 39, 172.

10. The Debtors currently estimate that, as of December 31, 2020, they had approximately \$1.792 billion of federal NOLs and certain other tax attributes

³ Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this Motion shall have the meanings given to them in this Motion or the First Day Declaration, as applicable.

⁴ In addition, under certain circumstances, certain NOLs generated may be “carried back” to offset taxable income in prior years.

(collectively, the “Tax Attributes”).⁵ The Debtors anticipate that they will generate significant additional Tax Attributes in the 2021 tax year, including during the pendency of these chapter 11 cases. The Tax Attributes are potentially of significant value to the Debtors and their estates because the Debtors may be able to utilize the Tax Attributes to offset any taxable income generated by transactions consummated during these chapter 11 cases (including with respect to any taxable disposition of some or all of the Debtors’ assets). Additionally, depending on the structure utilized in the chapter 11 plan, in the event any of the Debtors’ Tax Attributes were to survive, the Debtors may be able to carry forward certain of those Tax Attributes to offset federal taxable income or federal tax liability in future years. Accordingly, the value of the Tax Attributes will inure to the benefit of all of the Debtors’ stakeholders.

I. An “Ownership Change” May Negatively Affect the Debtors’ Utilization of the Tax Attributes.

11. Sections 382 and 383 of the IRC limit the amount of federal taxable income and federal tax liability, respectively, that can be offset by a corporation’s tax attributes in taxable years (or portions thereof) following an “ownership change.” Generally, an “ownership change” occurs if the percentage (by value) of the stock of a corporation owned by one or more “5 percent” shareholders has increased by more than 50 percentage points over the lowest percentage of stock owned by such shareholders at any time during the 3-year testing period ending on the date of the ownership change. The total percentage point increases of stock owned by one or more “5 percent” shareholders within the measuring period is generally referred to as the amount of the “ownership shift.” In situations involving multiple classes of stock with different rights, the determination of whether a shareholder is a “5 percent” shareholder is made by reference to stock value

⁵ Amounts are estimates and are subject to change. The Tax Attributes include certain amounts that are subject to limitations on use as a result of prior ownership changes under section 382 of the IRC.

(without regard to certain considerations such as control premiums or minority discounts, and with reference to certain mechanical tests). For example, an ownership change would occur in the following situation:

An individual (“A”) owns 50.1 percent of the stock of corporation XYZ. A sells her 50.1 percent interest to another individual (“B”), who owns 5 percent of XYZ’s stock. Under section 382 of the IRC, an ownership change has occurred because B’s interest in XYZ has increased more than 50 percentage points (from 5 percent to 55.1 percent) during the testing period. The same result would follow even if B owned no XYZ stock prior to the transaction with A because B both becomes a 5 percent shareholder and increases his ownership by more than 50 percentage points during the testing period.

12. It is critical to understand that, under these rules, a company can be harmed as a result of actions by parties that are unknown to the company. As noted above, if a person unknown to the company were to acquire more than 5 percent of the company’s stock (determined in accordance with the rules set forth above), the company would experience an “ownership shift” that could lead to an ownership change. By the time the company knew who the unidentified shareholder was, the shareholder would have already purchased the shares and the harm would be done. Accordingly, for the Procedures to be effective, the Procedures must bind unknown parties.

13. The Debtors submit that all parties potentially subject to the procedural relief requested herein are receiving publication notice of the relief. As one particularly salient example, companies in certain instances may enact charter restrictions to protect their tax attributes. Such charter restrictions may impose *substantive* limitations on sales and purchases of equity that are similar to the procedural limitations requested in this Motion. Although such charter restrictions are put to a shareholder vote before being enacted, they always bind unknown parties (*i.e.*, persons that are not shareholders at the time the vote is taken) and do so via public information issued by the company in connection with the adoption of such charter restrictions. It is true that

the relief requested in this Motion is not being put to a shareholder vote—nor should it be, because the requested relief is intended to maximize the value of the Debtors for all stakeholders—but unlike charter restrictions, the relief requested in this Motion merely implements *procedures* that must be observed before relevant actions are taken.

14. An “ownership change” can also occur as a result of a “worthless stock deduction” claimed by any “50-percent shareholder.” IRC § 382(g)(4)(D). A 50-percent shareholder is any person or entity (or group of people that is treated as a single entity under the applicable rules) with Beneficial Ownership of 50 percent or more of a corporation’s stock “at any time during the 3-year period ending on the last day of the taxable year” with respect to which the worthless stock deduction is claimed. *Id.* If the 50-percent shareholder still owns the corporation’s stock at the end of the taxable year, sections 382 and 383 of the IRC essentially treat such person or entity as newly purchasing the stock on the first day of the next taxable year. For example, if a person or entity with 50 percent of a corporation’s stock claims a worthless stock deduction with respect to the 2020 tax year but does not sell such stock in 2020, that person is treated: (a) as not having owned the stock at the end of 2020; and (b) as having purchased the stock on the first day of the 2021 tax year. That deemed purchase would cause an ownership change because the 50-percent shareholder would be deemed to have a 50-percentage-point increase in its stock ownership. Notably, while the seminal case of *Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors v. PSS Steamship Co. (In re Prudential Lines Inc.)*, 928 F.2d 565 (2d Cir. 1991), is generally relied upon to support equity trading motions in general, the specific issue in *Prudential Lines* was, in fact, a worthless stock deduction.

15. If an ownership change occurs, section 382 of the IRC limits the amount of a corporation’s future taxable income that may be offset by its “pre-change losses” and

section 383 of the IRC limits the amount of a corporation's future tax liability that may be offset by its "excess credits," in each case, to an annual amount based on the fair market value of all of the stock of the corporation prior to the ownership change multiplied by the long-term tax exempt rate that applies to the month of the ownership change.⁶ See IRC §§ 382(b) and 383(a). Pre-change losses and excess credits include the Debtors' Tax Attributes and any so-called "realized built-in losses" (as defined in section 382(h)(3) of the IRC).⁷ Once a Tax Attribute is limited under section 382 or 383 of the IRC, its use may be limited forever.⁸ Thus, certain transfers or worthless stock deductions with respect to the Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock effected before the effective date of the Debtors' emergence from chapter 11 protection may trigger an "ownership change" for IRC purposes, severely endangering the Debtors' ability to utilize the Tax Attributes, which would cause substantial damage to the Debtors' estates.

16. Notably, the Debtors have limited the relief requested herein to the extent necessary to preserve estate value. Specifically, the proposed Interim Order and Final Order will affect only: (a) holders of the equivalent of more than 658 shares of Common Stock⁹ (*i.e.*, 4.5 percent or more of outstanding Common Stock); (b) holders of the equivalent of more than 4.5 percent of any

⁶ The applicable long-term tax-exempt rate changes from month to month. For ownership changes occurring in June 2021, the applicable long-term tax-exempt rate is 1.64 percent.

⁷ The rules relating to potential limitations on the ability to offset taxable income with so-called realized built-in losses are highly complex and depend on, among other things, the extent (if any) of a debtor's "net unrealized built-in loss." A net unrealized built-in loss is equal to the excess of the aggregate adjusted basis of all of a corporation's applicable assets over their fair market value (as determined for purposes of section 382 of the IRC) immediately prior to the ownership change. IRC § 382(h)(3)(A)(i). Once a net unrealized built-in loss is limited under section 382 or 383 of the IRC, its use is limited for 5 years.

⁸ Realized built-in losses that are deducted beginning after the expiration of a five-year "recognition period" are no longer subject to limitation, but any realized built-in losses that are deducted prior to the expiration of such period are limited forever.

⁹ Based on approximately 14,627 shares of Common Stock outstanding as of the Petition Date.

individual class (or series) of Preferred Stock; (c) parties who are interested in purchasing sufficient Common Stock or Preferred Stock to result in such party becoming a holder of 4.5 percent or more of Beneficial Ownership of any class (or series) of outstanding Common Stock or Preferred Stock; and (d) any “50-percent shareholder” seeking to claim a worthless stock deduction.

17. To maximize the use of the Tax Attributes and enhance recoveries for the Debtors’ stakeholders, the Debtors seek limited relief that will enable them to closely monitor certain transfers of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock and certain worthless stock deductions with respect to Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock so as to be in a position to act expeditiously to prevent such transfers or worthlessness deductions, if necessary, with the purpose of preserving the Tax Attributes. By establishing and implementing such Procedures, the Debtors will be in a position to object to “ownership changes” that threaten their ability to preserve the value of their Tax Attributes for the benefit of the estates.

II. Proposed Procedures for Transfers of or Declarations of Worthlessness with Respect to Common Stock or Preferred Stock.

18. The Procedures are the mechanism by which the Debtors propose that they will monitor and, if necessary, object to certain transfers of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock and declarations of worthlessness with respect to Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock to ensure preservation of the Tax Attributes. The Procedures, which are fully set forth in **Exhibit 1** to the Interim Order and the Final Order, are detailed below.¹⁰

¹⁰ Capitalized terms used in this section but not otherwise defined herein have the meanings given to them in the Procedures. To the extent that this summary and the terms of the Procedures are inconsistent, the terms of the Procedures control.

Procedures for Transfers of Common Stock or Preferred Stock

- a. Any entity (as defined in section 101(15) of the Bankruptcy Code) that is a Substantial Shareholder (as defined herein) must file with the Court, and serve upon: (i) the Debtors, Katerra Inc., 2494 Sand Hill Road, Building 7, Suite 100, Menlo Park, California, 94025, Attn: Marc Liebman; (ii) proposed co-counsel to the Debtors, (a) Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 601 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Joshua A. Sussberg, P.C., and Christine A. Okike P.C., and Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 300 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60654, Attn: Dan Latona, and (b) Jackson Walker LLP, 1401 McKinney Street, Suite 1900, Houston, Texas 77010, Attn: Matthew D. Cavanaugh, Jennifer F. Wertz, and J. Machir Stull (iii) counsel to any statutory committee appointed in these cases; (iv) the U.S. Trustee for the Southern District of Texas, 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3516, Houston, Texas 77002; and (v) to the extent not listed herein, those parties requesting notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002 (collectively, the “Notice Parties”), a declaration of such status, substantially in the form attached to the Procedures as **Exhibit 1A** (each, a “Declaration of Status as a Substantial Shareholder”), on or before the later of (A) twenty calendar days after the date of the Notice of Interim Order, or (B) ten calendar days after becoming a Substantial Shareholder; *provided, however*, that direct holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock shall not be required to file the Declaration of Status as a Substantial Shareholder; *provided, further*, that, for the avoidance of doubt, the other procedures set forth herein shall apply to any Substantial Shareholder even if no Declaration of Status as a Substantial Shareholder has been filed.
- b. Prior to effectuating any transfer of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock that would result in an increase in the amount of Common Stock or Preferred Stock of which a Substantial Shareholder has Beneficial Ownership or would result in an entity or individual becoming a Substantial Shareholder, the parties to such transaction must file with the Court, and serve upon the Notice Parties, an advance written declaration of the intended transfer of Common Stock or Preferred Stock, as applicable, substantially in the form attached to the Procedures as **Exhibit 1B** (each, a “Declaration of Intent to Accumulate Common Stock or Preferred Stock”).
- c. Prior to effectuating any transfer of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock that would result in a decrease in the amount of Common Stock or Preferred Stock of which a Substantial Shareholder has Beneficial Ownership or would result in an entity or individual ceasing to be a Substantial Shareholder, the parties to such transaction must file with the Court, and serve upon the Notice Parties, an advance written declaration of the intended transfer of Common Stock or Preferred Stock, as applicable, substantially in the form attached to the Procedures as **Exhibit 1C** (each, a “Declaration of Intent to Transfer Common Stock or Preferred Stock,” and

together with a Declaration of Intent to Accumulate Common Stock or Preferred Stock, each, a “Declaration of Proposed Transfer”).

- d. The Debtors shall have twenty calendar days after receipt of a Declaration of Proposed Transfer to file with the Court and serve on such Substantial Shareholder or potential Substantial Shareholder an objection to any proposed transfer of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock, as applicable, described in the Declaration of Proposed Transfer on the grounds that such transfer might adversely affect the Debtors’ ability to utilize their Tax Attributes. If the Debtors file an objection, such transaction will remain ineffective unless such objection is withdrawn by the Debtors, or such transaction is approved by a final and non-appealable order of the Court. If the Debtors do not object within such twenty-day period, such transaction can proceed solely as set forth in the Declaration of Proposed Transfer. Further transactions within the scope of this paragraph must be the subject of additional notices in accordance with the procedures set forth herein, with an additional twenty-day waiting period for each Declaration of Proposed Transfer. To the extent that the Debtors receive an appropriate Declaration of Proposed Transfer and determine in their business judgment not to object, they shall provide notice of that decision as soon as is reasonably practicable to any statutory committee(s) appointed in these chapter 11 cases.

- e. For purposes of these Procedures (including, for the avoidance of doubt, with respect to both transfers and declarations of worthlessness): (i) a “Substantial Shareholder” is any entity or individual person that has Beneficial Ownership of at least: (A) 675 shares of Common Stock (representing approximately 4.5 percent of all issued and outstanding shares of Common Stock); or (B) 4.5 percent of any individual class (or series) of Preferred Stock, and (ii) “Beneficial Ownership” will be determined in accordance with the applicable rules of section 382 of the IRC, and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder (other than Treasury Regulations section 1.382-2T(h)(2)(i)(A)) and includes direct, indirect, and constructive ownership (e.g., (1) a holding company would be considered to beneficially own all equity securities owned by its subsidiaries, (2) a partner in a partnership would be considered to beneficially own its proportionate share of any equity securities owned by such partnership, (3) an individual and such individual’s family members may be treated as one individual, (4) persons and entities acting in concert to make a coordinated acquisition of equity securities may be treated as a single entity, and (5) a holder would be considered to beneficially own equity securities that such holder has an Option (as defined herein) to acquire). An “Option” to acquire stock includes all interests described in Treasury Regulations section 1.382-4(d)(9), including any contingent purchase right, warrant, convertible debt, put, call, stock subject to risk of forfeiture, contract to acquire stock, or similar interest, regardless of whether it is contingent or otherwise not currently exercisable.

Procedures for Declarations of Worthlessness of Common Stock or Preferred Stock

- a. Any person or entity that currently is or becomes a 50-Percent Shareholder¹¹ must file with the Court and serve upon the Notice Parties a declaration of such status, substantially in the form attached to the Procedures as **Exhibit 1D** (each, a “Declaration of Status as a 50-Percent Shareholder”), on or before the later of (i) twenty calendar days after the date of the Notice of Interim Order and (ii) ten calendar days after becoming a 50-Percent Shareholder; *provided, however*, that holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock shall not be required to file the Declaration of Status as a 50-Percent Shareholder; *provided, further*, that, for the avoidance of doubt, the other procedures set forth herein shall apply to any 50-Percent Shareholder even if no Declaration of Status as a 50-Percent Shareholder has been filed.

- b. Prior to filing any federal or state tax return, or any amendment to such a return, or taking any other action that claims any deduction for worthlessness of Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock for a taxable year ending before the Debtors’ emergence from chapter 11 protection, such 50-Percent Shareholder must file with the Court and serve upon the Notice Parties a declaration of intent to claim a worthless stock deduction (a “Declaration of Intent to Claim a Worthless Stock Deduction”), substantially in the form attached to the Procedures as **Exhibit 1E**.
 - i. The Debtors shall have twenty calendar days after receipt of a Declaration of Intent to Claim a Worthless Stock Deduction to file with the Court and serve on such 50-Percent Shareholder an objection to any proposed claim of worthlessness described in the Declaration of Intent to Claim a Worthless Stock Deduction on the grounds that such claim might adversely affect the Debtors’ ability to utilize their Tax Attributes.

 - ii. If the Debtors timely object, the filing of the tax return or amendment thereto with such claim will not be permitted unless approved by a final and non-appealable order of the Court, unless the Debtors withdraw such objection.

 - iii. If the Debtors do not object within such twenty-day period, the filing of the return or amendment with such claim will be permitted solely as described in the Declaration of Intent to Claim a Worthless Stock Deduction. Additional returns and amendments within the scope of this section must be the subject of additional notices as set forth

¹¹ For purposes of the Procedures, a “50-Percent Shareholder” is any person or entity that at any time since December 31, 2017, has owned Beneficial Ownership of 50 percent or more of the Common Stock, the previously-existing Series E Preferred Stock, the previously-existing Series F2A Preferred Stock, or the Series A Preferred Stock (determined in accordance with section 382(g)(4)(D) of the IRC and the applicable Treasury Regulations thereunder).

herein, with an additional twenty-day waiting period. To the extent that the Debtors receive an appropriate Declaration of Intent to Claim a Worthless Stock Deduction and determine in their business judgment not to object, they shall provide notice of that decision as soon as is reasonably practicable to any statutory committee(s) appointed in these chapter 11 cases.

Notice Procedures

- a. No later than two business days following entry of the Interim Order, the Debtors shall serve a notice by first class mail, substantially in the form attached to the Procedures as **Exhibit 1F** (the “Notice of Interim Order”), on: (i) the U.S. Trustee for the Southern District of Texas; (ii) the entities listed on the consolidated list of creditors holding the 40 largest unsecured claims; (iii) the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; (iv) the Internal Revenue Service; (v) any official committees appointed in these chapter 11 cases; (vi) all registered and nominee holders of Common Stock (with instructions to serve down to the beneficial holders of Common Stock, as applicable); and (vii) all registered and nominee holders of Preferred Stock (with instructions to serve down to the beneficial holders of Preferred Stock, as applicable). Additionally, no later than two business days following entry of the Final Order, the Debtors shall serve a Notice of Interim Order modified to reflect that the Final Order has been entered (as modified, the “Notice of Final Order”) on the same entities that received the Notice of Interim Order.
- b. All registered and nominee holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock shall be required to serve the Notice of Interim Order or Notice of Final Order, as applicable, on any holder for whose benefit such registered or nominee holder holds such Common Stock or Preferred Stock, down the chain of ownership for all such holders of Common Stock or Preferred Stock.
- c. Any entity or individual, or broker or agent acting on such entity’s or individual’s behalf who sells Common Stock or Preferred Stock to another entity or individual, shall be required to serve a copy of the Notice of Interim Order or Notice of Final Order, as applicable, on such purchaser of such Common Stock or Preferred Stock, or any broker or agent acting on such purchaser’s behalf.
- d. As soon as is practicable following entry of the Interim Order, the Debtors shall (i) submit a copy of the Notice of Interim Order (modified for publication) for publication in *The New York Times* (national edition); and (ii) submit a copy of the Notice of Interim Order (modified for publication) to Bloomberg Professional Service for potential publication by Bloomberg.
- e. To the extent confidential information is required in any declaration described in the Procedures, such confidential information may be filed and

served in redacted form; *provided, however*, that any such declarations served on the Debtors ***shall not*** be in redacted form. The Debtors shall keep all information provided in such declarations strictly confidential and shall not disclose the contents thereof to any person except: (i) to the extent necessary to respond to a petition or objection filed with the Court; (ii) to the extent otherwise required by law; or (iii) to the extent that the information contained therein is already public; *provided, however*, that the Debtors may disclose the contents thereof to their professional advisors, who shall keep all such notices strictly confidential and shall not disclose the contents thereof to any other person, subject to further Court order. To the extent confidential information is necessary to respond to a petitioner objection filed with the Court, such confidential information shall be filed under seal or in a redacted form.

Basis for Relief

19. Section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that property of the estate comprises, among other things, “all legal or equitable interests of the debtor in property as of the commencement of the case.” 11 U.S.C. § 541. The Tax Attributes are property of the Debtors’ estates. *In re Prudential Lines Inc.*, 928 F.2d 565, 573 (2d Cir. 1991) (“We hold that the right to a carryforward attributable to its . . . NOL was property of [the debtor’s] bankruptcy estate.”), *cert. denied*, 502 U.S. 821 (1991); *In re Delta Air Lines, Inc.*, No. 05-17923 (PCB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Sept. 16, 2005) (finding that NOLs are property of the debtors’ estates); *In re Forman Enters., Inc.*, 273 B.R. 408, 416 (Bankr. W.D. Pa. 2002) (same); *In re White Metal Rolling & Stamping Corp.*, 222 B.R. 417, 424 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1998) (same). Section 362(a)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, moreover, stays “any act [of an entity] to obtain possession of property of the estate or of property from the estate or to exercise control over property of the estate.” 11 U.S.C. § 362(a)(3). Accordingly, any act of a holder of a debtor’s equity securities that causes the termination, or limits use, of the Tax Attributes violates the automatic stay. *See, e.g., In re Prudential Lines*, 928 F.2d at 574 (holding that causing the termination of or adversely affecting the value of a debtor’s NOL violates the automatic stay); *In re Phar-Mor, Inc.*, 152 B.R. 924, 927

(Bankr. N.D. Ohio 1993) (“[T]he sale of stock is prohibited by § 362(a)(3) as an exercise of control over the NOL, which is property of the estate”).

20. Implementation of the Procedures is necessary and appropriate to enforce the automatic stay and, critically, to preserve the value of the Tax Attributes for the benefit of the Debtors’ estates. Under sections 382 and 383 of the IRC, certain transfers of or declarations of worthlessness with respect to Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock prior to the consummation of a chapter 11 plan could cause the termination or limit the use of the Tax Attributes. As stated above, the Debtors estimate that as of December 31, 2020, they had approximately \$1,792 million of federal NOLs and certain other tax attributes, and in addition, the Debtors estimate that they may generate additional Tax Attributes in the 2021 tax year. As noted above, these Tax Attributes may be necessary to address tax consequences resulting from the implementation of the Plan and, depending upon the structure utilized to consummate the Plan, they may provide the potential for material future tax savings (including in post-emergence years). The termination or limitation of the Tax Attributes could, therefore, be materially detrimental to all parties in interest, including by potentially limiting the Debtors’ ability to utilize certain structures to consummate the Plan. Granting the relief requested herein will preserve the Debtors’ flexibility in operating their businesses during the pendency of these chapter 11 cases and implementing an exit plan that makes full and efficient use of the Tax Attributes and maximizes the value of the Debtors’ estates.

21. Additionally, the Procedures do not bar all transfers of or declarations of worthlessness with respect to Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock or Preferred Stock. The Debtors seek to establish procedures only to monitor those types of transactions that would pose a serious risk under the ownership change test pursuant to sections 382 and 383 of the IRC

and to preserve the Debtors' ability to seek substantive relief if it appears that a proposed transfer or declaration of worthlessness could jeopardize the Debtors' utilization of the Tax Attributes. Because of the Tax Attributes' importance to the Debtors' restructuring, and thus all parties in interest, the benefits of implementing the Procedures outweigh subjecting a small subset of transfers to the Procedures.

The Requirements of Bankruptcy Rule 6003 Are Satisfied

22. Bankruptcy Rule 6003 empowers a court to grant relief within the first twenty-one days after the Petition Date "to the extent that relief is necessary to avoid immediate and irreparable harm." Authorizing the Debtors to implement certain protective procedures related to certain transfers of, or declarations of worthlessness with respect to, Debtor's existing common stock or any Beneficial Ownership therein, and granting the other relief requested herein, is integral to the Debtors' ability to maintain the value of their estate postpetition. Failure to receive the requested relief immediately would expose the Debtors to significant tax consequences, irreparably jeopardizing the Debtors' ability to maximize the value of their estates for the benefit of all stakeholders. Accordingly, the Debtors submit that they have satisfied the "immediate and irreparable" standard of Bankruptcy Rule 6003 to support granting the relief requested herein.

Waiver of Bankruptcy Rules 6004(a) and 6004(h)

23. To implement the foregoing successfully, the Debtors request that the Court enter an order providing that notice of the relief requested herein satisfies Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and that the Debtors have established cause to exclude such relief from the 14-day stay period under Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h).

Reservation of Rights

24. Nothing contained herein or any actions taken pursuant to such relief requested is intended or shall be construed as: (a) an admission as to the amount of, basis for, or validity of

any claim against a Debtor entity under the Bankruptcy Code or other applicable nonbankruptcy law; (b) a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's right to dispute any claim on any grounds; (c) a promise or requirement to pay any claim; (d) an implication or admission that any particular claim is of a type specified or defined in this Motion or any order granting the relief requested by this Motion or a finding that any particular claim is an administrative expense claim or other priority claim; (e) a request or authorization to assume, adopt, or reject any agreement, contract, or lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code; (f) an admission as to the validity, priority, enforceability, or perfection of any lien on, security interest in, or other encumbrance on property of the Debtors' estates; (g) a waiver or limitation of the Debtors', or any other party in interest's, rights under the Bankruptcy Code or any other applicable law; or (h) a concession by the Debtors that any liens (contractual, common law, statutory, or otherwise) that may be satisfied pursuant to the relief requested in this Motion are valid, and the rights of all parties in interest are expressly reserved to contest the extent, validity, or perfection or seek avoidance of all such liens. If the Court grants the relief sought herein, any payment made pursuant to the Court's order is not intended and should not be construed as an admission as to the validity of any particular claim or a waiver of the Debtors' or any other party in interest's rights to subsequently dispute such claim.

Notice

25. The Debtors will provide notice of this Motion to the following parties or their counsel: (a) the United States Trustee for the Southern District of Texas; (b) the holders of the 40 largest unsecured claims against the Debtors (on a consolidated basis); (c) Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP as counsel to the DIP Lender; (d) the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas; (e) the state attorneys general for states in which the Debtors conduct business; (f) the Internal Revenue Service; (g) the Securities and Exchange Commission; (h) the

Environmental Protection Agency and similar state environmental agencies for states in which the Debtors conduct business; (i) to the extent known, the registered and nominee holders of the Common Stock or Preferred Stock (with instructions to serve down to the beneficial holders of Common Stock or Preferred Stock as applicable); (j) any party that has requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002; and (k) any other party entitled to notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Local Rule 9013-1(d). In light of the nature of the relief requested, no further notice is required.

The Debtors request that the Court enter interim and final orders, granting the relief requested in this Motion and granting such other and further relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

Houston, Texas
June 7, 2021

/s/ Matthew D. Cavanaugh

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Certificate of Accuracy

I certify that the foregoing statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
This statement is being made pursuant to Local Rule 9013-1(i).

/s/ Matthew D. Cavanaugh

Matthew D. Cavanaugh

Certificate of Service

I certify that on June 7, 2021, I caused a copy of the foregoing document to be served by
the Electronic Case Filing System for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern
District of Texas.

/s/ Matthew D. Cavanaugh

Matthew D. Cavanaugh